

Message Text

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ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 OC-05 CCO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02

SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 OMB-01 EB-07 TRSE-00

OCL-00 PRS-01 /055 W

----- 091191

P 031315Z APR 75

FM AMCONSUL ASMARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3304

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

JCS PRIORITY

COMNAVTELCOM PRIORITY

CINCUSNAVEUR PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

COMIDEASTFOR PRIORITY

CNO PRIORITY

NAVCOMMUNIT ASMARA PRIORITY

NAVCOMMSTA NEA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 0390

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, PFOR, ET, US

SUBJECT: KAGNEW FUEL AND POWER

REF: A) ASMARA 0323; B) STATE 071703; C) ADDIS ABABA 3928

1. LOCAL EFFORTS US AGENCIES, AS SUGGESTED REF A, HAVE RESULTED IN MORE OR LESS REGULAR DELIVERIES SUFFICIENT DIESEL FUEL AND MOGAS UNDER NAVY MOBIL CONTRACT TO MEET ALL NEEDS USG AND NEEDS ETHIOPIAN MILITARY AT TRACTS A & E. IT TO BE HOPED THIS HAPPY SITUATION WILL CONTINUE TO OBTAIN. HOWEVER, FORMALIZATION OF REQUIREMENT THAT EPMG AUTHORITIES WILL ENSURE THAT THERE WILL BE SUFFICIENT FUEL AT ALL TIMES FOR PROVISION OF POWER TO U.S. INSTALLATIONS (REF B) IS PRUDENT MOVE.

2. NEITHER CONGEN NOR NAVCOMMUNIT HAVE PROBLEMS WITH PROPOSED ARRANGEMENTS FOR PROVISION OF POWER TO ASMARA CITY BY KAGNEW.
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HOWEVER, ASIDE FROM NECESSARY LOAD TESTS, CONGEN DOES NOT THINK

ANY POWER SHOULD BE PROVIDED TO CITY UNTIL ALL ARRANGEMENTS
CONCLUDED ON BASIS OF EXCHANGE OF NOTES AND ALL PRECONDITIONS
MET BY EPMG. AFTER ALL, CITY HAS POWER, ALBIET INADEQUATE, FROM
MASSAWA. FURTHER, EPMG APPROACHED US, NOT THE REVERSE.
POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES THIS HUMANITARIAN GESTURE OBSCURE TO SAY
THE LEAST. CREDIT BUILT UP WITH EPMG AND/OR CITY AUTHORITIES MAY
BE OFFSET BY POSSIBLE NEGATIVE INSURGENT ATTITUDE TOWARD U.S.
HELPING "OPPRESSORS". IT ALSO POSSIBLE THAT ELF/PLF HAVE
RECONSIDERED MERITS OF DEPRIVING FELLOW ERITREANS OF POWER IN
ASMARA, MOST TANGIBLE BENEFIT FOR USG WILL PROBABLY BE IN GRATITUDE
AVERAGE ASMARA RESIDENT FOR HELPFUL GESTURE. CONGEN HAS, NEVERTHE-
LESS, REQUESTED ELPA TO AVOID ANY PUBLIC REFERENCE TO PROVISION
OF POWER BY KAGNEW, EVEN THOUGH THERE NO SECRETS IN ASMARA, AND
MANY ALREADY CONVINCED THAT KAGNEW HAS ALL ALONG BEEN PROVIDING
POWER TO THE CITY.
SHERRY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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